

REMARKS

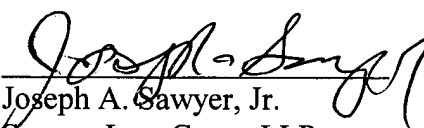
Claims 1-27 are pending, and claims 2, 3, 5, 18, 19, and 21 have been amended, and claims 1 and 17 have been canceled. Claims 2-16 and 18-27 remain pending.

The Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim is acknowledged and appreciated. The Examiner also indicated that claims 7-16, and 23-27 are allowable.

Accordingly, the limitations of canceled claim 1 have been incorporated into amended claim 2, and the limitations of canceled claim 17 have been incorporated into amended claim 18. The amendment to claim 18 also corrected the Sec. 112 rejection. Claims 3, 5, 19, and 21 were amended to correct claim dependencies.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,


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